

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A cutting machine for organic plant materials, comprising:
 - a cutting head mounted in a stationary main frame;
 - a feeding-compacting arrangement frame, comprising transporters for feeding the material into a cutting zone of the cutting head, and means for compacting and/or polarizing mutual distribution of fed particles, and
 - horizontal guides fixed to said main frame along which said feeding-compacting arrangement frame can be moved toward and away from said main frame to permit access to said cutting head.
2. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 1, wherein the cutting head is a cutterhead with the main axis of rotation being horizontal.
3. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 2, wherein the cutterhead is provided with a number of cutting knives, symmetrically arranged around its perimeter, the number being divisible by 2, 4, 8 or 16.
4. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 3, wherein the cutting knives have cutting edges situated at an angle (δ) relatively to the horizontal direction during the cutting/comminuting operation.
5. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 4, wherein the distance (a) between the lower knife edge of the mouthpiece and a surface of a cylinder described by the cutting edges of the cutting knives of the cutterhead is almost zero.
6. (Currently amended) A cutting machine according to claim 4, wherein the angle (δ) is in the range from 0° to 15° ; ~~preferably from 0° to 10° .~~

7. (Previously presented) a cutting machine according to claim 1, the guides are placed over the feeding-compacting arrangement frame.

8. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 1, further comprising an integral control system (EC).

9. (Previously presented) A cutting machine according to claim 1, further comprising a shield element for the cutting edges of the cutting knives on the side of an access space on the main frame to the cutting head.

10. (New) A cutting mechanism according to claim 6 wherein the angle (δ) is in the range from 0° to 10° .